

From: Sandra Jones [mailto:frogcop@cox.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 10:04 PM
To: Jud Testimony
Cc: Sen. Kissel, John A.
Subject: Bill 259

My name is Sandra L. Jones, I have been in the field of addictions and mental health treatment for over thirty years. I currently work both the Prevention side of addiction as well as the treatment side. I cannot understand why the legislature would even consider reducing the enhanced penalty for sale of drugs within 1,500 feet of a school, day care, or public housing complex? In any other arena we are increasing the security of our schools with locked doors, armed security, additional School Resource officers. Why? To maintain the safety of the areas where children are gathered in groups, many walk to and from home.

It seems that much new legislation is reducing penalties for offenders. I can understand reducing penalties for possession and use IF there is mandatory treatment involved. (Research shows that even though mandated treatment referrals are harder to engage in treatment, the more exposure to treatment the better chance that treatment will work). However, SELLING is a different situation. Why would anyone create an easier penalty for selling close to our schools? Respectfully,

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